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STATE FOR NEA/ARPI, NEA/PA, NEA/AIA, NEA/PI, INR/NESA, R/MR, I/GNEA,  
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SUBJECT: KUWAIT MEDIA REACTION: IRAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM

Summary: Most of the opinion pieces in the weekend papers addressed domestic issues, primarily the topic of redrawing Kuwait's electoral districts. The editorial below expresses popular views on the notion of the existence of double standards in U.S. foreign policy. While many in Kuwait are against Iran possessing nuclear technology, fearing environmental and/or strategic consequences, it is not uncommon for a few to support its development of nuclear capabilities, viewing this as a victory for the Muslim world. End summary.

Block Quotes

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Friday, 19 May, 2006

-- Mal Allah Yousef Mal Allah wrote in the moderate Arabic-language daily Al-Qabas under the title "Iranian nukes and American idiocy": "Any American attack against Iran will be political idiocy. One may ask why all this American concern with the Iranian nuclear program while there are nuclear programs that are closer to the hearts of Asian countries and America, 'lady democracy.' Both America and her spoiled child Israel possess nuclear warheads that may destroy the world at any minute. Why is Iran the only one who is forbidden from developing nuclear technology why others are allowed to have nuclear weapons? The truth is that despite America's control over the current international system, it does not have the ability to impose its will on all the people of the world, especially if it is faced with fierce resistance, such as what happened in Vietnam and Iraq. In conclusion, the United States does not have a choice other than to negotiate with Iran with respect and understanding so that the situation can be resolved peacefully."

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